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REMARKS

For the reasons stated below, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims pending in this application are in condition for allowance.

In the specification paragraphs [0047] and [0082] have been amended. In particular, in paragraph [0047], reference markers for elements in Figure 2 have been amended from letter form to numeral form. The numeral form for the reference markers corresponds to the convention used to indicate scatterometer elements in Figure 2, while the previously used letter form corresponds to the convention user to indicate the same elements in Figure 1.

Paragraph [0082] has been amended to indicate an inadvertently omitted reference number.

Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Claims 1-42 were pending in the application. Claims 21 and 42 have been cancelled and claims 2-20 and 22-41 have been amended hereby to correct matters of form. Accordingly, claims 1-20 and 22-41 will be pending herein upon entry of this Amendment.

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In view of the foregoing all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP

1650 Tysons Boulevard

McLean, VA 22102

Respectfully submitted,

Tel: 703/770-7900

HANS VAN DER LAAN, ET AL.

Date: August 23, 2006

Jack S. Barufka

В́у:

Registration No. 37,087

Attachments:

JSB/RAR/pj

Customer No. 00909